

WINGCHELL



STARLING...



I'LL BE GOING!!

Sl-



ap!!

YEAAA!!



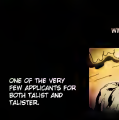
TO BE HONEST, I'M GLAD WINGCHELL IS UP FIRST.



WITH RULES LIKE THESE, I'M GOING TO GET TOO EXCITED... GOOD THING I CAN JUST COPY OF HER.

CAREFUL WINGCHELL!

DON'T WORRY~

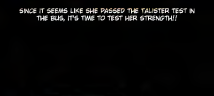


WINGCHELL STARLING...

ONE OF THE VERY FEW APPLICANTS FOR BOTH TALIST AND TALISTER.



THAT MUST MEAN SHE'S CONFIDENT IN BOTH HER INTELLECT AND STRENGTH...



SINCE IT SEEMS LIKE SHE PASSED THE TALISTER TEST IN THE BLUE, IT'S TIME TO TEST HER STRENGTH!!

YOU BETTER GIVE UP NOW.



I WON'T GO EASY ON YOU JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE A KID!

REALLY...



YOU REMEMBER MY RULES, RIGHT BUTCHER?



IF YOU DON'T PROPERLY CONDUCT THE TEST OR TRY TO RUN AWAY...

I'LL GIVE YOU A DEATH PENALTY RIGHT THERE!!

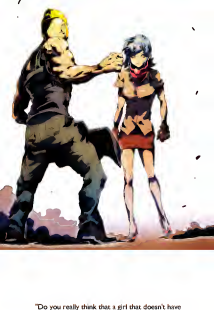


IT TOOK SO LONG TO GET TO 'THIS PLACE'.

I WON'T EVER...



RUN AWAY!!!



"Do you really think that a girl that doesn't have anything to do would go so deep in the mountains to hang herself with a rope?"

**BAB**

**#06**



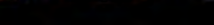
...A DEFENSIVE STANCE?!!

YOU'RE NOT GOING TO RUN AWAY?!!



IT'S TOO LATE TO REGRET NOW!!

... HE'LL COME FROM BELOW!!



...



AN OPENING!!!



... HE SHOWED IT TOO EASILY.



HAHA!! SCARED ALREADY!?



BECOMING A TALISMAN IS, IN OTHER WORDS, A CHANCE TO GET AN IMMENSE STRENGTH.



THAT IS WHY SO MANY APPLICANTS COME TO THIS PLACE EACH YEAR. FOR POWER AND GLORY, FOR SUCCESS, OR FOR PROTECTION.



BUT AMONG THEM, WE AREN'T LOOKING FOR THE STRONG.

BECAUSE WE PROVIDE "STRENGTH", THERE ARE NO REASONS FOR US TO CHOOSE AN ALREADY POWERFUL CANDIDATE.

RIGHT, THE PEOPLE THAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR ARE THOSE WITH RESPONSIBILITY. THOSE THAT CAN USE IT PROPERLY



AND, WITHOUT BEING OVERWHELMED BY IT,

HAVE THE POSSIBILITY TO FULLY UTILISE IT TO THE BEST OF ITS ABILITIES.



THE POTENTIAL!!!

IF YOU SUCCESSFULLY ATTACK YOU GET POINTS, AND LOSE IT IF YOU ARE ATTACKED.



IT MIGHT SEEM LIKE YOU SHOULD JUST ATTACK ENDLESSLY...

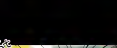


Step

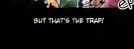
Step



ANOTHER OPENING AFTER AN ATTACK!!



I WANT TO ATTACK...!

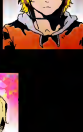


BUT THAT'S THE TRAP!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! WORKING ABOUT YOUR IMAGE?! FIGHT LIKE YOU USUALLY DO!



IT'S OBVIOUS THAT THE GIRL IS MORE SHARP THAN THIS GUY.



SHE FIGURED OUT THE SYSTEM OF THIS TEST WELL.



BUT IT'S GOING TO BE HARD TO STAY ON THE DEFENSIVE AFTER GETTING HIT ONCE OR TWICE.



EVEN IF YOU BLOCK YOU STILL GET THE DAMAGE SO IT WILL BE COUNTED AS A HIT!



-10 POINTS!!



EH?!!

IT POINTS CAN GO TO NEGATIVE?



OF COURSE

HM~



HMM~

WELL I THINK I GET IT NOW...



HE'S THE TYPE TO USE THE OPPONENT'S ATTACK!!

THAT'S WHY HE'S SHOWING HIS OPENINGS EVERY TIME HE ATTACKS.



SEEING AS HOW HE'S TAKING SUCH A RISK, HE MUST MEAN HE'LL END IT IN JUST ONE BLOW!!

IN THAT CASE, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS USE THAT OPENING AND FINISH HIM IN ONE BLOW!!!



HE STARTED MAKING BIGGER MOVEMENTS TO TEMPT ME TO ATTACK.

AND THERE'S NO WAY HE CAN AVOID THAT HUGE OPENING!!



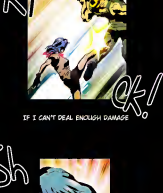
?!



SHE  
FEARTEAGER!!



KUNINK?!!!!



IF I CAN'T DEAL ENOUGH DAMAGE



I'LL GET TAKEN OUT!!!

SHE HIT MY  
BULKY BODY OFF  
THE GROUND?!!!

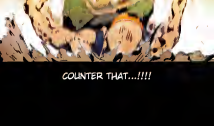
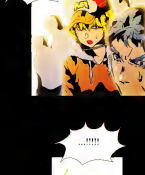


I'LL BLOCK HER  
NEXT ATTACK AND  
COUNTER!

...?!!



Flash punch!!!!



COUNTER THAT...!!!!



WELL AT LEAST RYKLE SHOULD KNOW HOW TO DO THIS NOW.



\*NO ABOUT 200 POINTS...



... ALRIGHT THEN MISS WYSCHELL STARLING.

THAT ATTACK JUST NOW WAS WORTH 400 POINTS.



WYSCHELL STARLING, PASSES THE 2ND SELECTION TEST!!

Yeah Yeah #



BUT WHY'D YOU PRAG IN ON FOR SO LONG?



SHE INSTANTLY FIGURED OUT BUTCHER'S ABILITY AND FINISHED HIM BEFORE HE COULD COUNTER...

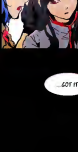


I CAN SEE WHY SHE APPLIED FOR BOTH TALIST AND TALISTER.

HE'S THE TYPE TO USE THE OPPONENT'S ATTACK?



YEAH! HE'S PROBABLY THE TYPE TO USE COUNTER TECHNIQUES OR USE GRABBING TECHNIQUES



SO WAIT FOR THE CHANCE AND FINISH HIM IN ONE BLOW LIKE I DID!



...GOT IT.

YOUR EYES ARE TOTALLY DIFFERENT FROM 'GOT IT'...



SINCE WE CAN'T HAVE A PROPER EVALUATION WITH MR. BUTCHER'S INJURES,



WE WILL WAIT FOR HIM TO GET HEALED UP.

Poke Poke

EXCUSE ME.



...??

STEP ASIDE PLEASE! WE'RE THE MEDICAL TEAM!



AH... SORRY



...A RUP LIKE THAT IS A TALISMAN?

YOU'RE SEVERELY INJURED, MR. BUTCHER.



Ssk



IS THAT THE TALISMAN'S 'STRENGTH'?



THAT'S...!!

IT'S DONE.



THANKS.

NOW, LET'S MOVE ON TO THE NEXT CHALLENGER.



MIROKU...



SANDALSON!!

DOOM



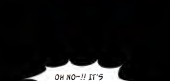
...?!?!?

DO... DO YOU THINK HE'S?



HE'S PROBABLY JUST SIMILAR LOOKING...

... I'M READY!!



PAT!!

OH NO--!! IT'S STARTING!!!



THE 'SECOND FIGHT' IS WHERE IT STARTS TO GET DANGEROUS!!

KU

GU



GU

START PLEASE!!



KU



hak

Ka



POW!!!

ME...



INITIATED THE ATTACK?!!

Twok

Crash

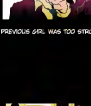


WH...WHAT?! WAS MY PREDICTION  
WRONG?



OR DID HE SIMPLY... CHANGE HIS PATTERNS?

IS IT ALREADY OVER...? HOW BORING.



WELL, THE PREVIOUS GIRL WAS TOO STRONG.

Gal



twitch

twitch



KA... KAKAKAKAKA...



KAKAKAKAKAKA!!!



... HE STOOD UP!



HOW... UNEXPECTED. I THOUGHT THIS WAS  
GOING TO BE BORING

Gr



Gr

BUT I GUESS IT'LL BE AN EXCITING TEST...!!

HOW THEN...

SHOULD I GO?!!

Ssk



???



"Tu



Kang!!



WH...WHAT!!!!

.....



YOU PROBABLY UNDERESTIMATED ME  
BECAUSE OF MY GLASSES?!!

Ha!!

Ha



SORRY BUT THE GLASSES  
ARE A DISGUISE! TO LOWER  
THE OPPONENT'S GUARD!!

AND THESE GLASSES WEIGH 9 TONS!!!



IT'S A DOUBLE  
PISSINGE!!!!



WHA...



WHAT THE  
HELL IS THIS  
FUDRY  
SAYING?!!

...DO YOU HAVE THE  
TIME...



TO BE LOOKING  
SOMEWHERE ELSE?



... FAST!!



GET THE HELL OUT  
TO THE...



Ku

9-5/4  
PLATFORM!!!!



hak!

Smack



!!!!



Crash

THIS YEAR'S APPLICANTS...

ARE STRONG!!!!



PLUS 600  
POINTS!!

WITH THE PREVIOUS POINTS OF  
MINUS 200...



TOTAL POINTS, 400!!

HEH!!



PIP Y'ALL SEE THAT?!!

THE ONE WHO'LL PASS WITH THE HIGHEST SCORE IS I...!!!



MIROKU-NIM!!!

IT'S TRUE THAT HE'S TOO ARROGANT BUT HIS SKILLS ARE REAL.



I GUESS EVERYBODY WHO COMES TO THIS PLACE IS SKILLED.

...



THAT GUY... I CAN SMELL IT.



THE SAME SMELL AS MINE...



THIS GUY... HE FEELS SIMILAR.



JUST LIKE ME...

A BLOOD THIRSTY...



AND UNCONTROLLABLE ...!!



I'M SURE...!!



HE'S...!!!

A FLASH WARRIOR!!!!

A PHONY LORD!!

Doom

THAT HAIR IS 9 TONS RIGHT?

NO IT'S NOT. PUMBASS.

Ti

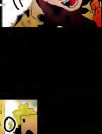


It...

Crush!

twok

7!!!!



DOOM



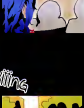
...

OH... DUE TO ME, MIROKU  
LOSING HIS CONSCIOUS FROM AN  
ACCIDENT...



HE WILL POSTPONE HIS MATCH UNTIL  
HE WAKES UP AND CARRY ON WITH THE  
NEXT PERSON.

CAN'T YOU  
JUST ASK THAT  
KID TO PATCH  
HIM UP?



I DON'T  
FEEL LIKE  
IT!

Boon!

Wtting



WAIT...

IF YOU'RE JUST RANDOMLY PICKING PEOPLE, CAN'T  
THE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO GO FIRST VOLUNTEER?



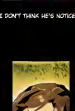
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE THERE'S ANYTHING  
GOOD FOR GOING EARLIER EITHER.

IN FACT, WOULDN'T IT BE DIS-ADVANTAGEOUS TO GO  
EARLIER? ARE YOU OKAY WITH THAT?



DON'T CARE

...THAT WAS A LIE. IT'S ACTUALLY QUITE CLEARLY  
MORE 'ADVANTAGEOUS' TO GO EARLIER.



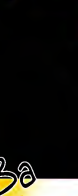
BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S NOTICED IT.

ALL  
HE MUST BE ONE  
OF THOSE THAT  
WANT TO GO  
WILD.



LETTING BEASTS LIKE  
THAT TO DO WHAT  
THEY WANT IS THE  
WISDEST THING TO DO.

ALRIGHT!! THEN THE NEXT  
CHALLENGER! YOUR NAME  
PLEASE!

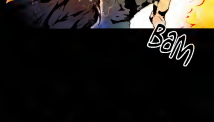


RINKLELETTTER PIXIZER!!

Tk: Real translation is Winkleletter

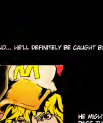


Ba



Bam

RINKLE--!! GET HIM IN ONE BLOW OKAY?!



NO... WE'LL DEFINITELY BE CAUGHT BY THE TRAP.



HE MIGHT NOT EVEN  
PASS THE TEST.



...?

HE'LL DEFINITELY PASS.



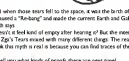
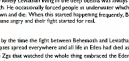
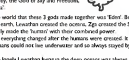
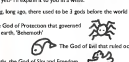
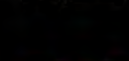
... DELTEMIR?!!



YOU'RE GOING TO REGRET IT IF YOU THINK LIGHTLY OF ME JUST BECAUSE I LOST TWICE!!



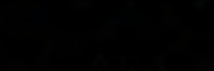
THE 'REAL' THING STARTS NOW!!



HE'LL DEFINITELY FIAS



...DELTE MIR?!!

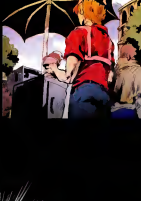


YOU'RE GOING TO REGRET IT IF YOU  
THINK LIGHTLY OF ME JUST BECAUSE I  
LOST THEM!



THE "REAL" THING STARTS NOW!!

- 3 Hours Ago -



HAS  
MICHAELLA  
RECOVERED  
YET?



GOFFOW-RIN IS  
GOING TO FELL  
AT HIM IF HE  
MESSES UP THE  
TEST...

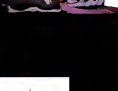


HEY, PRETTY  
LAPES.



IF YOU HAVE TIME,  
DO YOU GIRLS WANT  
TO GO GET SOME  
TEA WITH OFFA

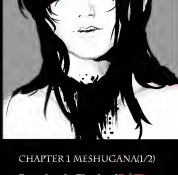
AND HAVE SOME FUN  
CONVERSATION?



ABOUT AN ALLIANCE?

**B★B**  
#07  
off

**BLACK  
BEHEMOTH**



CHAPTER 1 MESHUGANA(1/2)

Dancing In The LuciD★Dream

NOW TOLD ME NOT TO DRINK TEA WITH STRANGERS.



IF YOU MAKE A BETTING LIKE THAT, THEN WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?

YOU'VE HEARD ABOUT THE MYSTERIES OF THE TALISMAN TEST, RIGHT?



YES, OF COURSE.

LIKE HOW THE PROFOUT'S NOT BEING ABLE TO REMEMBER THE CONTENT OF THE TEST,

OR HOW THERE'S NEVER BEEN A SINGLE FATALITY FROM THE TEST.

AND EVEN THOUGH SO MANY PEOPLE ARE GATHERED, A FALLMAN SPY'S NEVER BEEN CAPTURED...



RIGHT? THEY WERE FAMOUS STORIES AT THE SCHOOL. EVEN THE TEACHERS WOULDN'T TELL US ABOUT THEM.

THIS PURPOSE OF THIS TEST IS TO PICK OUT ARTS FOR WAR, LOOKING FOR THOSE THAT CAN RESIST THE FALLMAN.

IF IT'S FOR THAT GOAL, THE EXAMINERS WON'T STOP AT ANYTHING.



HOWEVER, WHEN TALKING ABOUT 'WAR',



IT SHOULDN'T BE SURPRISING NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS.

ARE— ARE YOU SAYING THAT THE TALISMANS CAN DO ANYTHING THEY WANT TO USE?



THEY CAN OR THEY MIGHT 'ALREADY HAVE

YOU SHOULDN'T THINK ANY BETTER OF EIGHT AR JUST BECAUSE IT'S A FREE COUNTRY UNLIKE FALLMAN

IF YOU LOOK AT HISTORY, THERE'S NEVER BEEN A SINGLE CLEAN COUNTRY



SO WHAT-IT

NO WAY'S AND SHIPPE'S ARE WHAT GET'S PEOPLE



THAT'S WHY I'M SAYING WE SHOULD FORM AN ALLIANCE JUST IN CASE



EXCLUDING THE TEST, IF ANYTHING DANGEROUS WERE TO HAPPEN TO ANY ONE OF US, WE SHOULD HELP EACH OTHER. EVEN AGAINST AN EXAMINER OR SOMETHING ELSE.

...HE HAS A POINT...



FEAR...

BUT, THERE'S A CATCH.

EVEN AN INSTANT ALLIANCE SHOULD BE MADE WITH A BIT OF TRUST.



LET'S MAKE A SHORT 'SELF-INTRODUCTION.





MY NAME IS WINGSHELL STALKING!  
(ALIAS)

I APPLIED FOR BOTH TALIST AND  
TALISTER, AND I'M GOOD AT CLOSE-  
COMBAT!



I'M RINKULETTER FIEDEK.

I'M CONFIDENT IN MY SPEED AND REFLEX  
BUT NOT SO MUCH IN CLOSE-COMBAT.  
(LIES) I CAME FROM THE SAME SCHOOL  
AS WINGSHELL.



I'M PELTEMIK CRAUSON

I CAME FROM FULLMAN AND WAS AN  
ORDINARY SOLDIER. (LIES!) I'M CONFI-  
DENT IN BOTH CLOSE AND LONG RANGE  
COMBAT BUT NOT SO MUCH IN SPEED.



MY NAME'S MAXIM PROTOCOL.

I WORKED AS A PROGRAMMER IN  
FULLMAN AND EVEN THOUGH I'M  
GOOD AT TACTICAL BATTLES, I WAS  
HOPELESS IN COMBAT. (COOPER  
BULLSHIT)

LET'S DO A GROUP!!



Stargazy

!!!!!!

L...LR0099999~!!!!



IT WAS AN ALLIANCE MADE OUT OF  
GOOD FALSE TRUST.

ALSO, FOR THERE TO BE AN ALLIANCE, WE SHOULD  
ALL STAND ON EQUAL FOOTING.



RINKULETTER, YOU ALREADY KNOW THAT  
PELTEMIK WAS A FULLMAN SOLDIER AS WELL  
AS HIS ABILITIES.

IN WHICH CASE, YOU SHOULD ALSO  
TELL US ABOUT YOUR PAST.



WHAT?!

WHAT DOES MY PAST  
HAVE TO DO WITH THE  
ALLIANCE?!

A LOT.



I'VE THINKED ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS AFTER I MET UP  
WITH MAXIM, BUT THERE REALLY IS SOMETHING FISHY  
GOING ON IN THIS TEST



SO WE NEED HAVE TO COME UP WITH A THEORY.

A THEORY?!



EVEN THOUGH IT'S JUST A SIMPLE  
GUESS, IT'S QUITE PLausible AND  
ESSENTIAL TO THIS TEST.

ISN'T IT JUST NONSENSE  
IN THE END?!



OF COURSE BUT WE'RE GOING  
TO GO ABOUT THIS TEST  
BASED ON THIS THEORY.

AND ACCORDING TO MY  
DEDUCTION, THE PARTICIPANT'S  
PAST IS PLAYS A VITAL ROLE. SO  
I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT YOUR  
PAST

WHY? I  
THOUGHT YOU WERE  
BETTER BUT YOU'RE  
JUST TRYING TO  
FIND OUT OUR  
WEAKNESSES.



SINCE THE ALLIANCE  
HAVE RUN WITH JUST  
YOU TWO.

WHY EVELLE?  
FROM LISTENING  
TO THEIR STORY  
FIRST!



NO  
THANKS

Wh



ack



OW?!

IT'S A RARE CHANCE TO HAVE NEW FRIENDS BUT ARE YOU GOING TO RUN AWAY AS USUAL?



HAAPTITY

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT HINGACHELL? THEY'RE OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO TRICK US!



WELL THAT'S BECAUSE THEY HAVE SOMETHING ON THEIR MIND!



JUST GOING OFF WITHOUT FULLY LISTENING TO OTHERS!! THAT'S A BAD HABIT!

ARE YOU GOING TO DO THIS EVERY SINGLE TIME? JUST RUN AWAY EVERY TIME YOU MEET SOMEONE NEW?

IT'S EMBARRASSING! STOP IT!! WHY'RE YOU LECTURING ME LIKE A MOM ALL OF A Sudden??

IT'S BECAUSE YOU KEEP ACTING STRANGE!



WON'T YOU DO THE CROSS OF TRUST BECAUSE YOU LIKE THEM?

NO I DON'T...



I JUST WANTED TO SEE WHO HAS THE THINNEST MIST.



YOU'RE STILL SO FOOLISH KID!



YOU SHOULD KNOW THAT NO MATTER HOW HARD HE TRY TO RUN AWAY FROM THE PAST, WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FACE IT SOMESDAY

MOREOVER...



YOU KNOW THAT YOUR MIST IS THE THINNEST EVER WITHOUT ACTUALLY COMPARING THEM...

.....

PONE REFLECTING NOW?



NEIGH. WE'LL TELL YOU OUR PAST AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.



BUT YOU SHOULD BE PREPARED.



SINCE IT'S QUITE DANGEROUS.

AFTER HEARING IT, YOU JUST MIGHT DIE WITHOUT ANYONE KNOWING ABOUT IT, YOU KNOW?

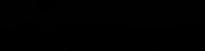


SORRY BUT MY LIFE'S BEEN IN DANGER SINCE I WAS 9.



SO I'M NOT REALLY FEELING IT.

Wh



HUFF

HUFF

To

HUFF



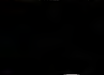
...AK?!!

Tak



Sera

KYANK!!!



Of



... CRANK...



... CRANK...



THIS... THIS TREE...



THIS TREE SHOULD TO IT...!



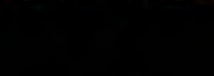
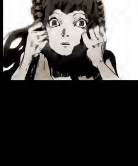
THEY WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND ME HERE EITHER.



Wh



OOP



G



Gulp...

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THERE?



Surprised

..!!!!

IT SEEMS LIKE...



YOU'RE GOING TO HANG YOURSELF.



OK... WHY NOW...



WHAT... YOU DON'T LIKE BEING INTERESTED?

OR DO YOU SIMPLY NOT WANT TO DIE?



WHO ARE YOU TO BE IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?



I COULD SAY THE SAME THING TO YOU, YOU KNOW?

IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS...!! DO YOU THINK A GIRL WHO HAS NOTHING BETTER TO DO WOULD GO SO DEEP IN THE WOOPS TO HANG HERSELF?



I HAVE TO DO THIS...!! SOMEONE LIKE YOU WILL NEVER UNDERSTAND!!

HM



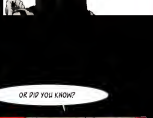
MHH

BUT DID YOU KNOW?



THAT PEOPLE WHO DIE BY HANGING, END UP SWIMMING WITH THEIR TONGUE HANGING OUT THIS LONG?

YOU'RE TRYING TO PROVE THAT TO ME  
NOW, RIGHT?!!



OR DID YOU KNOW?



THAT PEOPLE WHO DIE BY HANGING

EJACULATE



BUT NO ONE KNOWS IF IT'S BECAUSE YOU REACH  
A CLIMAX... OR BECAUSE YOUR MUSCLES RELAX...



BUT YOU'RE...

TRYING TO



PROVE



THAT TO ME NOW, RIGHT?!!!!



IT'S NOT LIKE I WANT TO DIE...



THEN POINT.



BUT OTHERS WILL DIE IF I LIVE...



CHET.

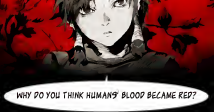


IS THAT A SURPRISE?

YOU ... CAN ACCEPT THAT?



OF COURSE. SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST. THAT'S THE WAY THE WORLD WORKS.



WHY DO YOU THINK HUMANS' BLOOD BECAME RED?



...TO PROVOKE OTHERS...

TO ME, YOU'RE JUST A WEAKLING...



WHAT CAN I DO...



TO BECOME STRONGER...?

IT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU RECEIVE.



AND WHAT YOU GIVE UP.

SO NOW



FOR WHAT REASON DID YOU HAVE TO GO  
BEHIND A TREE.



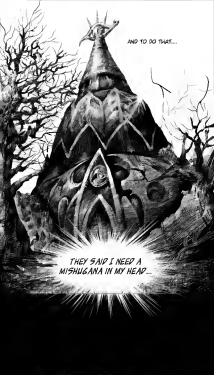
ALL THE WAY HERE?

I...



HAVE TO SAVE THE WORLD.





AND TO DO THAT...

THEY SAID I NEED A MISHUGANA IN MY HEAD...

THAT'S ALL WE CAN TELL YOU



I MET HINSCHELL IN THE MOUNTAINS THAT DAY AND STAYED IN 'LASGO' SINCE THEN

...OR DO YOU WANT TO HEAR MORE?



LIKE THE 'TRUTH' OF THAT PLACE?

NO... THIS IS ENOUGH.



IN RETURN, I'LL GIVE YOU A SERIOUS ADVICE

GIVE UP THE TEST!



YOU TWO DON'T BELONG HERE...!

WHAT DID YOU SAY BASTARD?!!!



HISS

HAI RINKLE, CALM DOWN!!

LASGO IS THAT PSEUDO-RELIGIOUS GROUP IN ATHESS, RIGHT? THE ONE RUMORED THAT EVEN THE BRAVEST PERSON WILL COME OUT CRAZY...



ACCORDING TO OUR THEORY, PEOPLE WITH TRAUMAS LIKE YOU GUYS ARE THE WORST!!

FOR OTHER PEOPLE AS WELL, YOU SHOULD JUST LEAVE WHEN I GENEROUSLY ADVISE YOU

BEFORE I RESORT TO FORCE...!



YOU'RE GONNA CHOP OUT ALL THE SHEETNESS FROM US AND SPIT US OUT LIKE A GUM?!?



ISN'T THAT TOO MUCH FOR JUST TELLING US ABOUT YOUR CHILDHOOD PLAY??



Pa

-BOTH OF YOU STOP!!!!

at



RINKLE!! ARE YOU GOING TO USE YOUR POWER BEFORE YOU EVEN ENTER THE TEST? THINK RATIONALLY!!!



IF OUR CONSEQUENCES DON'T MATCH UP WITH THEIRS THEN THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT!!

THIS BASTARD HAS NO HEART!! HE'S TELLING US TO QUIT AS SOON AS HE HEARS ABOUT WHERE WE'RE FROM!!



OUR PAST DOESN'T DO US JUSTICE!! DO YOU EVEN KNOW HOW MUCH WINGHELL AND I WORKED TO BECOME A TALISMAN?!!!

MAYBE. DON'T MAKE AN UNNECESSARY MISTAKE. I CAN GUARANTEE HIS STRENGTH.



IF IT'S RINKLELETTER, HE'LL SURVIVE UNTIL THE END OF THE TEST.

...REALLY?



OF COURSE!! EVEN BEAR GRILL'S WILL LOOK AT ME AND SAY "THIS CATERPILLAR LOOKS TASTY"! YOU STUPID WINDMILL HAT!

WELL... IT'S TOO LATE TO FIND OTHER PARTICIPANTS NOW.



THEN LET'S FORM THAT ALLIANCE AGAIN!

LET'S GO TO THE GRAND LINE FOR THE TEST!!!!



THIS WAS THE KIND OF ALLIANCE I WAS TALKING ABOUT.

IT'S A SPY!! CATCH HIM!!



SO WHAT REALLY IS THAT STUPID THEORY OF YOURS?

LOOK AT THIS.



...WHAT'S THAT CREEPY LOOKING THING?



IT'S A DEVICE I CREATED CALLED "VELMAGOTCH".

I WORRY ABOUT REM'S SAFETY SO I ALWAYS LISTEN TO HIM OR CHECK ON HIM USING THIS!



YOU'RE THE BIGGEST THREAT TO HIS SAFETY.

WHAT YOU SHOULD LOOK AT IS HIS MENTAL STATE.



AS YOU CAN SEE, IT SAYS 'REM'.

REM... AS IN REM SLEEP?!



ARE YOU SAYING... HE'S DREAMING RIGHT NOW?

PEOPLE'S DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING ABOUT THE TEST

AND THERE HASN'T BEEN A SINGLE FATALITY EITHER.

NOT ONLY THAT, BUT A WAY THAT MAKES IT HARD FOR A FALLMAN-SPY TO ENTER.

ANYTHING FLASHING IN YOUR MIND?

CO...COULD IT BE...?

THAT WE'RE ALL...

DREAMING RIGHT NOW?!

I'D LIKE TO SAY IT THIS WAY...

THAT THE TALISMAN TESTING GROUND ITSELF IS A DREAM...!

WE ALL CAME HERE ON A BUS, BUT WHY DIDN'T THEY JUST MAKE US GATHER IN THE PLAZA?

AND WHY DID HE FIND CHANGES TO THE BUS WHEN WE WERE GETTING OFF?

YOU'RE RIGHT...! I STILL REMEMBER THAT!!

THE PHRASE IN THE BUS WAS DIFFERENT WHEN I GOT ON AGAIN AND THE LICENSE PLATE WAS BACKWARDS TOO!!

I THINK THOSE CHANGES ARE 'PROJECTIONS'. CHANGES MADE BY OUR SUBCONSCIOUS.

THAT PROCESS IN WHICH WE CAME TO THE DREAM WORLD WAS QUITE FORCED

BUT I THINK OUR SUBCONSCIOUS WERE TRYING TO TELL US THAT THIS IS A DREAM

BY MAKING SMALL DISTORTIONS IN THE DREAM WORLD...!!

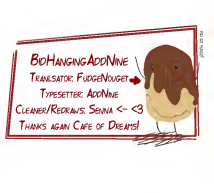
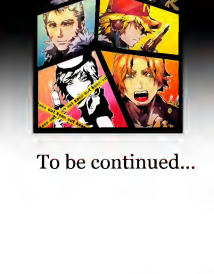
PEL SAYS THAT HE DOESN'T REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO THE FALLMAN SOLDIER THAT HE WAS FIGHTING AGAINST

BUT THAT'S PROBABLY WHEN HE AND YOU FELL ASLEEP.

THE CIGARETTE SMOKE YOU INHALED WHEN YOU GOT ON THE BUS WAS ACTUALLY A SLEEPING GAS

AND EVEN THOUGH YOU DIDN'T KNOW DURING YOUR FIGHT WITH THE FALLMAN SOLDIER BECAUSE YOU WERE MOVING AROUND, YOU MUST HAVE FELL ASLEEP AFTERWARDS WHEN YOU RELAXED.

THAT... MAKES SENSE...



"A Mishugana is a crack inside the head."

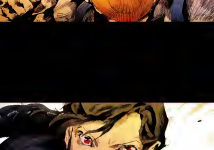
**BAB**

**#08**

Pa at



RIGHT HAND'S FIRST-!!!



NOT!!!



HE'S BEEN INITIATING THE FIGHT FOR A WHILE.

HE REALLY WANTS TO GO FOR IT.



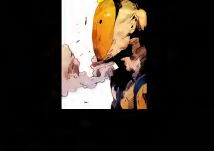
WHY WAS HE WAITING FOR A COUNTERATTACK WHEN HE WAS FIGHTING WINGSCHELL?



+20



IT DOESN'T EVEN ITCH.



ARE YOU PLAYING WITH ME!!



...!!!!

HE LESSENED THE IMPACT BY JUMPING BACK IN AN INSTANT...



WHAT AMAZING REFLEXES!

...MINUS 5 POINTS!



YOU COULD SEE THAT HE  
JUMPED BACK FROM THAT  
DISTANCE?



... AS EXPECTED  
OF MICHAELLA... I  
CAN'T LET MY  
GUARD DOWN.



... WELL FINE.

I ALREADY KNOW THAT THIS IS A WORLD OF  
DREAMS.



THAT'S WHY YOU'RE LETTING A CRIMINAL LIKE ME  
TO DO WHAT I WANT TO THE PARTICIPANTS.



THOUGH EVEN IF THIS  
PLACE WAS A REALITY

NOTHING WOULD BE  
DIFFERENT.

HEY.

...?

TAKE IT OFF.



THAT MASK.



IT'S UNPLEASANT SO TAKE IT OFF

Sm



ile

THANKS FOR POINTING  
IT OUT.



YOU MUST NOT KNOW ABOUT THE STORY  
BEHIND THIS MASK.

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM USELESS  
SPEECH.



SHUT UP!!!

WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO  
ABOUT IT THEN? HUH?!



ARE YOU GOING TO TORTURE  
ME IN "THIS PLACE"?

Twitch



Kirk  
ik



I USED TO BE A FAMOUS SERIAL KILLER.



I WAS QUITE WELL KNOWN IN IRYSTAR.

WHEN I KILLED I ALWAYS WORE THIS MASK, BUT IT WASN'T TO HIDE MY FACE.

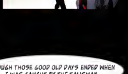


THE PROBLEM WAS MY HABIT OF COPYING THE FACIAL EXPRESSION OF OTHERS.

SO WHEN I KILLED MY EXPRESSION WOULD BECOME SO DISTORTED,



THAT I WORE THIS\* TO SHOW THEM WHAT MY REAL EXPRESSION WAS.



THOUGH THOSE GOOD OLD DAYS ENDED WHEN I WAS CAUGHT BY THE TALISMAN.



DID YOU KNOW THAT THEY HAVE THIS REALLY ANNOYING IRON-CLAP RULE?

"GIVE A SECOND CHANCE NO MATTER HOW EVIL THE PERSON IS"... AND AFTER MICHAELLA, THE SO-CALLED "REHABILITATION EXPERT", TOOK ME AWAY,



HE TREATED ME LIKE A SANDRAS PUP AND NIGHT, AND TRIED TO TURN ME INTO A SLAVE.

MP, MP. YOU SHOULDN'T SHOW SUCH A FACE WHEN YOU'VE ALMOST BECOME A GOOD KIP



YOU SAID THE "MASK" YOU WERE WEARING WHEN WE CAUGHT YOU WAS YOUR REAL FACIAL EXPRESSION? I THINK YOU SHOULD KEEP WEARING IT.

KLUK... JUST KILL ME!! YOU FUCKING BASTARD!!

WHY DIDN'T YOU JUST EXECUTE ME??



THAT'S ABSURD.

IT'S NOT THE TALISMANS JOB TO JUDGE A PERSON'S SIN.



WE JUST THINK ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE PEOPLE WHO ARE ALIVE.

TALISMANS... ARE ANNOYING...!!!



YOU, WHO ARE TRYING TO BECOME A TALISMAN, ARE ANNOYING...!!!

I DON'T GIVE A CRAP ABOUT YOUR STORY!!



JUST TAKE OFF THAT GODDAMN MASK!!

WHY DON'T YOU TRY IT YOURSELF?!!



Jump!  
Sto

!!



mp

KUK!!

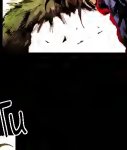
HIS SPEED AND STRENGTH  
KEEPS INCREASING AS TIME  
GOES BY



WHY?

Ko Go Go Gok

!!!



Tu



Hak!!

...KUK!!!!

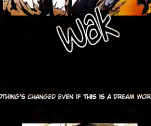


IGNORING WHAT  
WINGCHELL  
SAID, JUST A  
SINGLE STROKE  
FROM HIM IS  
DANGEROUS.



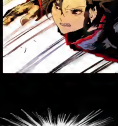
I SHOULD  
DEFINITELY  
AVOID SETTING  
COUNTERED...!

Shu



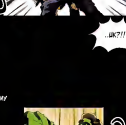
Wak

NOTHING'S CHANGED EVEN IF THIS IS A DREAM WORLD.



I'LL BECOME A  
TALISMAN!!!

+60



om

Bo

..UK?!!

KUK...!!  
RIGHT IN MY  
VITAL  
POINT...!!



Pat!!

HE DOESN'T HAVE  
THE STRENGTH OF  
PARTICIPANTS  
BEFORE HIM, BUT  
HIS ATTACKS ARE  
SHARP...!!

"ANGLE"!!!!



S

ping!

Chwaaak



Sp—in

!!



I DON'T HAVE A ONE-SHOT TYPE POWER LIKE WINGSHELL.

SO I JUST HAVE TO PUT MY WEIGHT INTO MY ATTACKS

Tu

+5

AND KEEP GETTING COMBO'S SO THAT HE CAN'T COUNTER!



kang!

UK!!



Whii

?!?!



ish!!

Tu

...PANT!!



MY GUARD...!!!

pek

SM

+100



ash

180 POINTS TOTAL!!



YOU SHOULD COUNT MY POINTS LATER!



BECAUSE I HAVE NO INTENTION OF STOPPING!!



Pa

.... CAUGHT YOU!!!



ot

Sh

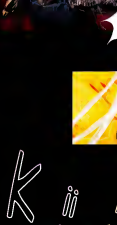
ir



ik

'ELASTICITY'

'SPRING SHIELD'!!!



Pa

ot!

?!?!



K

ii

ii

ik



U  
W  
A  
A  
A  
A  
A  
T  
?!!

HI...HTEN!!!

ing



HOW STRONG COULD THE PUNCH HAVE BEEN?!

YOU CAN'T FORCE ME  
WID-JIE!!



IT'LL BE OVER ONCE YOU  
REACH THE BOTTOM!!

WHAT A WEIRD THREAD...



ITS PROPERTIES CAN BE CHANGED?!

AS I THOUGHT YOU'RE  
PREPARING FOR A BIG ONE  
BELOW.



I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO  
MAKE YOU BACK OFF WITH A  
BIG SKILL...!!

'ANGLE'!!



'LARIAT!'



... YOU WANT ME TO BACK  
OFF, IS THAT IT?!!



SORRY BUT NO CAN DO!!

... YOU'RE NOT GOING TO  
BACK OFF...?!

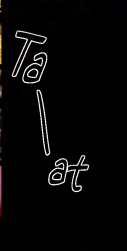
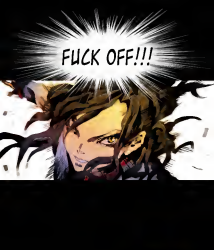


I CAN'T FAIL THIS TEST...! HE SHOULDN'T  
DIE SINCE THIS IS A DREAM SO...!!

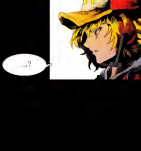
YOU CAN'T KILL



DIDN'T YOU PROMISE?



WHY DIDN'T HE ATTACK?



I DON'T KNOW WHAT HAPPENED...



BUT I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING  
THAT MOMENT...

I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S BECAUSE THIS IS A DREAM ...  
BUT THAT KILLING-INTENT FELT TOO REAL.



NO... IT MIGHT NOT BE BECAUSE I'M IN A DREAM.  
THOSE EYES WERE SOMETHING THAT ONLY THOSE WHO  
HAVE SEEN BLOOD CAN KNOW.

SOMETHING INSTINCT  
RELATED.



IT WAS LIKE



FACING THE ONE THAT STANDS



ON THE HIGHEST OF THE FOOD CHAIN...!!!

WHO IS THIS GUY...?!

DO?

LEEEKKKK...!!!



HE'S  
DAMAGED  
FROM HIS  
OWN SKILL...



LAME...

MY, FUNKLEY

POINTS



ANY WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

I KEEP TELLING YOU TO HOLD YOUR  
HAIR UP WHEN YOU'RE VOMITING! IT'S  
GETTING IN YOUR HAIR!

Pot  
Pot



T-THANK...NEEDBOOK!!

...PLUS 250 POINTS.



FROM WHAT STAMPACT??

HAHA... DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME BECAUSE  
OF THAT



BECAUSE THAT WAS ALL PLANNED...!

MY VOMIT ACTUALLY WEIGHS 5 TONS!!

STOP THAT DIRTY  
SLIPPING!!



MINUS 250 POINTS!

YOU'RE STILL NOT TAKING THAT MASK OFF?



HOW UGLY DO YOU THINK YOU ARE?

...WHY DO YOU KEEP OBSESSING OVER THIS MASK?



...BECAUSE IT'S SIMILAR...!



THE WAY YOU SMILE ONLY ON THE OUTSIDE...!!



IT'S DISGUSTING!!!

SO TAKE IT OFF!!!

Pa

ot



...WHAT HAPPENED?

I NO LONGER  
FEEL THE  
KILLING-INTENT  
I DID BEFORE.



THANKS TO THAT I REMEMBERED  
HIS PATTERN.

Shu



BECAUSE HE'S NOT  
THAT STRONG HE  
ATTACKS WITH HIS  
WEIGHT!

Wak

SO IF I JUST GET THROWN HIM OFF  
BALANCE!!

#



???

it

DAMN...!!



MY COMBO GOT  
CUT...!!

HERE'S A LEFT  
FOOT.



...!!!!

Who



KUK!!!

Qz  
+10

DON'T  
UNDERESTIMATE  
ME!!



Tukang!!



DAMN IT...!!  
HE ALREADY  
KNOWS MY ATTACK  
PATTERN...!

BUT UNLESS I DO THIS  
I CAN'T CONTROL MY  
POWERS ENOUGH TO NOT  
KILL HIM...!

Land

...SHOULD I DRAW?



NO MATTER  
WHAT HAPPENS



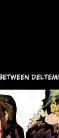
YOU CAN'T SHOUT  
DRAIN BEFORE THE  
500 POINT MARK.

BUT WHAT'S WITH THAT HAT BASTARD...!!



SPEAKING LIKE HE KNOWS EVERYTHING...

THAT WARNING  
AGAINST ME WHILE  
WE WERE TALKING  
ABOUT OUR  
DREAMS...



THAT WAS DEFINITELY...

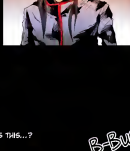
A CAUTIOUS LOOK BETWEEN DELTEMER AND MY RELATION.



IF THIS WHOLE THING IS A DREAM



I DON'T REALLY WANT TO WAKE UP.



WHAT IS THIS...?

B-Bump



B-Bump

THIS STRANGE FEELING...?

.....



I CAN'T REALLY EXPLAIN IT.

BUT I CAN FEEL HIS AURA AGAIN..!

AND RIGHT NOW...



HE'S AT A MUCH LOWER PLACE THAN ME!!



AT THE BOTTOM OF THE FOOD CHAIN!!

NOW...



IS THE CHANCE!!

...AH!



I GOT OFF TRACK..!

.....?



BO OM



... UK!!!

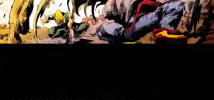


WHAT POWER!!!



KUK...!!

ok

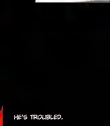


EVEN THOUGH I DODGED IT I WAS SENT FLYING BY THE IMPACT...



WHERE IS SUCH POWER COMING FROM?!

PANH!! I THOUGHT THAT ATTACK WOULD DO IT!



HE'S TROUBLED.

BUT THAT'S FINE.



YOU CAN JUST GET DISQUALIFIED RIGHT THERE.

BECOMING A TALISMAN IS JUST AN EMPTY DREAM FOR YOU.

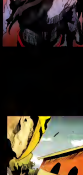


HE'S BEEN PUSHED FAR ENOUGH!



HE SHOULD BE SHOUTING IT AT ANY MOMENT!

DRAW!!!



THIS GUY'S POWER AND SPEED HAS GOTTEN TOO DANGEROUS.



IF I GET HIT ONCE, NOT ONLY WILL I LOSE ALL MY POINTS, I'LL GET CRUSHED...!

I CAN'T RISK IT ANYMORE...!

I HAVE NO CHOICE!!



DRAW!!!



....

HE SHOUTED IT!!!



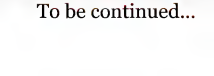
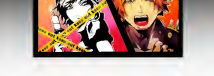
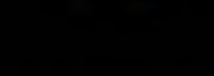
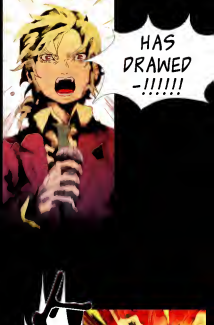
PARTICIPANT WRINKLELETTER

B-BUMP



B-BUMP

WITH 189 POINTS..



To be continued...



## Dr. Crow's Science Column Vol.2

Grrrrrrrr! Hello my little friends! Have you been studying well while I was gone? Sorry for the 1 week wait! There's been this one project that I've been working on! What project was it? That's a secret! No one can know about it! But when it's time, I promise that it's something you can 'never ignore'. crow crow

Now what should we talk about? We should talk about 'Witches' like I said last time, right?

How many of you have actually seen a witch? Actually, witches don't look any different from normal people so it might be hard to tell, but they have a 'mark' that indicates their 'class' somewhere on their body!

Before I tell you about anything complicated, I'll tell you what a witch is first! We learned about Zgi's Tears last time, right? That's this world's creation myth! A myth is a myth but there are so many artifacts that prove it's true that it's thought to be true in the community. And inside the world created by Zgi, there is something special called a 'Witch'.

The term 'Witch' actually point to both males and females. The reason these witches are special is because they 'share' the souls of objects and their own

'What does this mean you ask? Witches each have their own class. And those class are all natural objects.

There are witches of wind, water, fire, earth, and others. And they share their souls with those natural objects! (This also includes abstract things but let's skip for now)

No one knows yet how this happened. The most probably theory is the theory that the human soul and the nature's soul have been forced into a 'Fractal State' when Zgi's tears bursted. What's a 'Fractal State'? Since this term is too difficult for you all right now, I'll tell you about it later.

So if there is a 'Tree Witch' and if that witch were to die, the tree that's been sharing the soul will also die.

This is how it is for forest's sake, but it's not like it's one witch per one tree, meaning a big group called 'Trees' and 'Tree Witches' all share their souls. So if all the trees in the world were to die, then all the tree witches would die as well.

But there is one class that can be said that a single witch has his or her soul connected with a single object. That's right. They are the 'Star Witches' who share the stars' souls, isn't it amazing that they have the souls of planets? And they were said to be strongest among all the witches.

Why 'were'? That's because there are only 5 Star Witches alive now. People became afraid of the witches' powers, especially the star witches, and they raised them out and killed them.

And the only five star witches that survived the 'Witch Hunt' are called 'Astral Child'. They all became missing and no one has ever seen them.

But why are there so many stars remaining on the sky even though all the star witches have died off? The bigger the size of the object, the slower the speed of the meteoroids. Also, it takes quite the many years for star lights to reach Earth. So the stars that you guys are looking at now might have disappeared long ago, and the witches that shared their souls probably have died. This means that the star lights you all enjoy are remnants of the dead.

\*Next week the 'Witch Story' continues.

~~BO~~HANGING ADDNINE

TRANSLATOR: FUDGENOUGET →

TYPESETTER: ADDNINE

CLEANER/REDRAW: SENNA ← <3

THANKS AGAIN CAFE OF DREAMS!



"I can do anything for my brother."

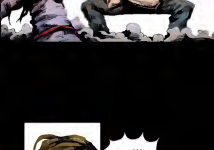
# BAB

## #09

Ku

Gu

Gu



!!!

KUAAAAAAAAH!!!



RINKLE!!

Ka-ping!



CALCULATION POWER! AND JUST AS I EXPECTED, THE ENERGY HE EMITS IS EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT OF DAMAGE HE HAS TAKEN



TO MAKE A HYPOTHESIS WITH THIS DATA, I SET HIS ABILITY IS RETURNING THE EXACT AMOUNT OF DAMAGE HE RECEIVED

ALSO, IT SEEMS THAT HE CAN FOCUS THE ENERGY HE'S TAKEN IN TO SPECIFIC AREAS IN HIS BODY TO INCREASE HIS SPEED AND HEAT HOT



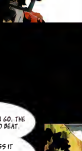
SN

AP

THE PURSUEX IS PROBABLY USED TO INCREASE HIS METABOLISM IN SHORT BURSTS.

IN SHORT, THE STRONGER THE OPPONENT, THE STRONGER HE GETS.

PERFECT FOR THIS SORT OF TEST.



SO THE LATER YOU GO, THE HARDER HE IS TO BEAT.

WELL, I GUESS IT WOULDN'T MATTER IF THE OBJECTIVE IS TO FIND THE STRONGEST ONE HERE...

HE ALREADY HAS THE DAMAGE ENERGY FROM THE LAST TWO FIGHTS



DO YOU THINK RINKLE CAN PASS THIS TEST?



CLOSE COMBAT IS RISKY!! I CAN'T FIGHT WITHOUT SHOWING AN OPENING EITHER!!

THEN....

I'LL FINISH HIM FROM A DISTANCE!!!





Gr



ab!!



!!!!



Crackle

Crackle

-Neuron Attack-

Pa BZZ BZZ



?!!!!!!

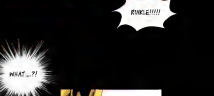
BZZt!!



WH...WHAT...



ELECTRICITY  
?!!!!



RUMBLE!!!!

WHAT...?!



WHY CAN'T I MOVE MY BODY...?!

WHAT ARE YOU  
POWER?? ATTACK  
BACK??



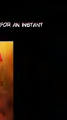
WELL LOOK AT  
THAT?!

RIGHT THEN, HE USED JUST THE  
MENTAL DAMAGE THAT HE'S ASSORBED AND  
SENT IT THROUGH THE WIRES.



AS SOON AS HE SENT THE NEURAL  
SIGNALS TO RIMPLE,

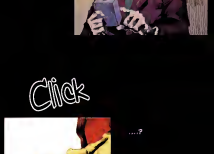
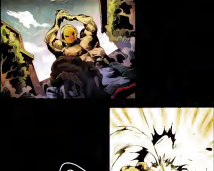
THE BODY HADN'T RECEIVED ANY  
DAMAGE BUT THE BRAIN THINKS IT DID,  
THEREFORE



THE MIND AND THE BODY DISCONNECTS, AND FOR AN INSTANT



HE CANNOT MOVE HIS BODY...!



IT'S BEING HACKED?!



Peeep



Peeeeeep

INFECTION HACK

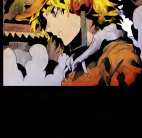


Beep

GYRO!!!

Beep

DELTERA'S TAKEN A LIKEN TO THE BROT.



HE'LL DEFINITELY PASS.



THEN PROVE YOUR WORTH TO ME!

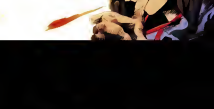


RINKLELETTER!!!!!!

Dun



SPIT!



WHAT'S WITH THIS PUPE. WHY THE SUDDEN SKY ROCKET IN DIFFICULTY?



THE 12P CHAPTER OF DEMON'S SOUL'S WASN'T THIS HARD

DEMON'S SOULS - A POPULAR RPG FOR THE PS2 SYSTEM



STRANGE THINGS KEEP HAPPENING DURING THIS TEST.



...DRAW!





!!

YOU WANT TO PRAY ON YOUR  
POINT CORE BELOW  
ZERO?



I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT THE  
POINT'S.



I WAS SAYING IT TO MYSELF.



TO PRAY OUT MY SUBCONSCIOUS SLEEPING BEEP INSIDE ME.



I'M TELLING IT TO WAKE UP! IT'S TIME TO GET TO  
WORK!

THE REASON I WANT TO  
BECOME STRONGER.

THE REASON I WANT TO  
BECOME A TALISMAN.



IS TO ESCAPE MY PAST AND  
SEEK A NEW FUTURE.



BUT MAKING THE STEP  
FORWARD WASN'T EASY.

BECAUSE I WAS  
AFRAID.



BUT THERE ARE  
FREAKISHLY POWERFUL  
GUYS IN THIS WORLD.



AND IT'S  
SHOWING ME OTHER  
POSSIBILITIES...

GROWING STRONGER  
TOGETHER!!!



THAT IS MY MOTIVATION....!

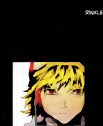
"SPIDER!"

Suu



Ping!

...8 WIRS AT  
ONCE?!



YOU TOOK ANOTHER  
STEP AHEAD HAVEN'T YOU?



SINGLE....



Van Van Van



Du

Du

Du !!



'EDGE!'



Spit



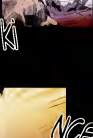
?!!!!

Spit!!



'SPRING!'

Ki Ki Ki



BOU



NCE

Ku

'CRESENT MOON!!!'

AA



AH



Shoo!

!!!!

Pop



Dracg



FOCUS THE DAMAGE...

Pr

ess

ON MY LEGS!!!



DA



Ash!!

Vmm



Mmm

Ka



Pow

!!!!



St



St



?!!!!

St



AB

THE KICK WAS A FEINT...!!  
NO...IT'S AS IF HE HAS 10  
LEGS!!



CAN  
HE CONTROL  
THE WIRES' MOVEMENTS AS  
WELL?!!



Crush!!

...KUHUAARGH!!!



!!



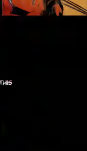
HE GOT HIM IN THE  
ACHILLES TENDONS?!!

YES...! MINIMAL DAMAGE BUT  
IT TIPS HIS BALANCE!



ONLY  
POSSIBLE  
BECAUSE  
HE USES  
WIRES!!

...FAMMIT!!

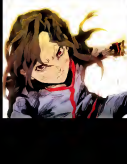


I COULD HAVE ENDED IT LIKE THIS  
FROM THE BEGINNING.



STAB HIM RIGHT  
IN THE HEART.

BUT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS



I WILL NOT KILL...

I PROMISED WINGCHELL.....!



THEREFORE I WILL!!!



Du Du

"ICKLES"!!!



Du



"ICEBURG"!!!!



P!!



THE INCREASED MASS OF THE WIRES MAKE THEM MORE LIKE WHIPS!

AND THERE ARE NO LIMITS TO THE LENGTH AND SIZE!!



THIS IS THE END!!!!



....!!



NO!!

THE WIRE IN HIS SIDE!



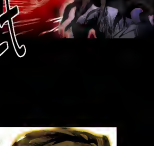
Gr ab!!





NOT AGAIN?!!

BZZ ZZ



ZZT



!!!!!!

OH NO!!!



THIS IS BAD...

...IT ENDS HERE!!



Du



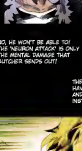
dun

land



RINKLE GET UP!!

GET AWAY!!



...RINKLELETER!

NO, HE WON'T BE ABLE TO!  
THE 'NEURON ATTACK' IS ONLY  
THE MENTAL DAMAGE THAT  
BUTCHER BRINGS OUT!

THE BROOKER OF THE ATTACK WITH  
HAVE THEIR MIND AND BODY DISCONNECTED,  
AND WON'T BE ABLE TO MOVE FOR A SHORT  
INSTANT!!



IF BUTCHER SENDS BACK ALL THE DAMAGE HE HAS TAKEN SO FAR...!

Sh



Sh



NG



NOOO!!!



Tschuess!!





AM!!



H...HOW!!

HE SHOULD HAVE BEEN PARALYZED FROM THE MENTAL SHOCK!

HOW DID HE RETALIATE?!!



OH...SO THAT'S HOW IT WORKED...

MENTAL SHOCK CAN'T SAY I FELT ANY OF THAT...



Ku Ku

Ku Ku



NOT WHEN I ATTACKED



OR WHEN I WAS ATTACKED



EVEN THAT NEURON WHATEVER

ONLY FELT LIKE STATIC IN MY HEAD

YOU KNOW WHY?

BECAUSE I'M

ENJOYING MYSELF SO MUCH!



HITTING,  
STABBING

Pound

SLASHING  
KILLING!

Pound

WHEN THE DEVIL INSIDE OF  
YOU SCREAMS, YOU CAN'T HOLD  
BACK THE DESIRE



IT DESTROYS  
THE BALANCE  
BETWEEN SIN'S,  
GOOD, AND  
EVIL

Pound

AND IN THE END, IT  
WILL SWALLOW YOU UP AND  
BREAK YOU

Pound

PIP YOU KNOW THAT ENOPHINS WORK  
100 TIMES BETTER THEN MORPHINES?



EVEN IF THERE WERE SUCH THINGS AS  
MENTAL SHOCK I'M

ALREADY HAND WITH JOY, I FEEL  
RUMB TO EVERYTHING ELSE



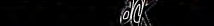
Pound

THERE IS NO SHOCK, THERE IS  
NO CONTROL. I CAN'T STOP THIS  
EXCITEMENT

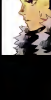
AND NOW, EVERYTHING I SEE WILL...!!!

Ku Ku Ku

CR



CR



TSK,



PIP I...LOSE IT AGAIN?

GRAB LIKE A GIRL,  
TWISTING MY HAIR, ALL  
SMILEY...

IT'S  
HERIGHT.



YOU'RE ONLY THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS



...I CAN'T BREATHE.



DEVELOPS MORE VIOLENT THAN HE LOOKS

BUT WINGSCHELLS THERE TO HOLD HIM BACK...A PERFECT COMBINATION

A ROUND OF APPLAUSE FOR OUR CONTESTANT FOR OVERCOMING HIS OBSTACLE!

SO THE 948 TOTAL OF THE POINTS EARNED AND THE POINTS GRANTED IS...

1200 POINTS!



RINKLEBETTER PIXIZER IS THE 3RD CONTESTANT TO PASS THE TALIST EXAM!!



YEAYYUN!!!!!!

WITH THIS RINKLE IS THE HIGHEST SCORING WOMAN SO FAR.



To be continued...



## Dr. Crow's Science Column Vol.3

Crow!! Hello again my little friends! I'll now continue last week's talk on 'witches'. To briefly review, the 'witches' are unique creatures who share their soul with nature.

The witches are separated into families. There are a variety of these families, and those who belong in the same family have similar abilities. Some families have very special powers that no other families possess. The members of the same family share a 'mark'. A funny little fact about these families is that the total power of these families are always the same.

What I mean by that is, let's there are only 5 members left in the Tree Family, and the total power of the family is 10. Then one member is allowed 2 of that power. However, if three of the member were to die, then one member is allowed 3 of the power. So, the less amount of the members in a family, the more power one member can have.

As I explained before, the people who feared the Witches of the Stars hunted and killed all the Star Witches they could find, but there were 5 survivors; the 'Astral Children'. Now think, the Star Witches were already the most powerful family, and now there is only 5 left? Can you imagine the power just one of those witches hold?

It is because of this, many fear the return of the 'Astral Children'. They are all currently off the radar, and no one knows if they are even alive, but just one of them holds power that of a star! Terrifying is it not?

So which stars survived along with the witches? As of now, those left in the solar system is the Earth, the Sun, the Moon, Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, and Mercury. It has been confirmed that there never was a Witch of the Earth, so there are only 4 stars left. But didn't I say there were only 5 survivors?

That's the mystery here. Last we've checked there are only 5 surviving Star Witches, but the stars left in our solar system, excluding the earth, are 4 stars. No one has yet to figure out the puzzle.

But, surprising news! Very recently, scientists have stated the possibility of a 7th star! It is there far from us, emitting weak energy, but still growing! Surprise! What can it be? What can be happening? Can it be that one of the surviving Astral Children bears a child? What a scandal!

However, after further research, scientists have determined that this source of energy is something other than a star. Her-cantaxer and curioxer. Something that emits energy equaling that of a star! What can it be? So exciting isn't it?

Starting next week new issues of Kef's Incredible Weekly will start publishing again. Perhaps we will meet again in the future! Bye everyone for now!

"What have you been doing to her?!"

BAB

#10

HAHAHAHA!!!!

Ba

BUM

HOW DO YOU LIKE THAT?!  
BET YOU CAN'T BEAT MY SCORES!!



HOPE YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO, NOT IN A MILLION YEARS!!!



Du

1550 POINTS!!

2400 POINTS!!

BOTH OF YOU PASS THE TEST!

WHAT THE HELL!!! IT TOOK ME  
TWO WHOLE CHAPTERS TO BEAT  
THAT GUY!!!



WELL THEY TOOK  
HITS FROM YOUR  
BATTLE.

Ku Ok

YOU USED MAX  
YOU NATIVE!!



PLAY NICE.

RINGLE...

YOU FEEL IT TOO DON'T YOU?

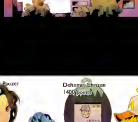


THAT YOU STARTED CHANGING AFTER  
YOU MET HIM...

MY THANKS TO ALL  
WHO PARTICIPATED!!



AND WITH THIS WE HAVE  
COME TO AN END TO THE 2ND  
TALIST EXAM!



Rainbowman Boushy  
1200 points

Dokurochi Chigusa  
1400 points

Volleyball Sterling  
1500 points

Mondo Pongpang  
1350 points

PinPon...  
800 points

Platform Boudhieu  
1600 points

Armed...  
1400 points

...  
1500 points

WINDSCROLL, WHAT ABOUT THE TALPETER CRAM?



ALREADY TOOK IT IN THE BUS.

OI.

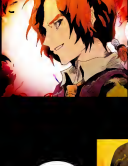


THAT RIGHT THERE WAS PRETTY IMPRESSIVE.



EVER I WAS ALMOST SWIFT AWAY

I DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU CAME FROM.



IT WOULD SEEM THAT WE HAVE BOTH NOTICED EACH OTHER SO I'LL TELL IT TO YOU STRAIGHT.

RINKLEBLETTER FIXIZER.



IF YOU EVER GET IN MY WAY



I'LL PULVERIZE EVERY SINGLE CELL OF YOUR BEING WITH MY FEET.



HUH? ISN'T THAT A COINCIDENCE.

I WAS JUST THINKING I'D RIP EVERY LAST MOLECULE OF YOUR BEING WITH MY BARE HANDS.

THE HELL?



ERKLE...DO YOU KNOW HIM?



...NOPE...

WOULD IT BE HELPER IF I TOLD YOU THAT HE'S...LIKE ME IN A WAY?



I HAD JUST ABOUT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT IT.

...SO YOU FEEL BETTER NOW?



I UNDERSTAND WHERE YOU'RE COMING FROM. IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE HERE JUST TO GAIN SOME POWER.



IF I WAS IN YOUR SITUATION, I'D BE ANXIOUS TOO.





BUT...

I'LL SAY THIS ONE LAST TIME.



I WILL NOT HAVE YOU ACTING OUT ON YOUR OWN FROM NOW ON...!!!



IS THAT UNDERSTOOD!?

I GUESS HE NOTICED.... THE HACKING.



UNDERSTOOD



TAKE YOUR DESIGNATED TRAINS TO GO TO WHERE THE 3RD PART OF THE EXAMS ARE TAKING PLACE.



EVERYBODY PLEASE DRAW YOUR NUMBERS, AND SINCE WE HAVE A LITTLE TIME TO SPARE BEFORE DEPARTURE, PLEASE RELAX AND TAKE A BREAK.

THANKS FOR ALL YOUR HELP SUN-SAE!!



NO PROBLEM I AM.

HERE YOU GO, TO HELP YOU MOVE UP!



NO...



I'VE BEEN SOBER...



FOR QUITE A WHILE NOW!!



THE COMPETITION FOR YEAR ARE OCCURRING AT A DIFFERENT LEVEL.



IN THE END, WE PART

AT LEAST WE'RE STILL PAIRED.

ANYWAY, I WANTED TO TALK ABOUT THIS TEST WITH YOU GUYS



I THINK YOU'RE RIGHT ABOUT THIS PLACE BEING A DREAM



I MEAN IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, THESE TESTS WERE ALREADY HARD TO BEGIN WITH.

THEY MADE CONNECT'S RIGHT CONTESTANTS WITHOUT RESTRAINTS



AND THEY ACT AS THOUGH THE SAFETY OF THE CONTESTANTS ARE NONE OF THEIR CONCERNS.

THE TALISMAN SHOWED OFF THEIR ABILITY TO GAZEELY TOO.



A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE PUG TO FAIL THE JHP EXAM, AND YET THEY DISGALAP /RETTY IMPORTANT INFORMATION.

WHICH MEANS THAT THEY DON'T FEAR INFO LEAKING FROM THE EXAMS



HEY KIMBLE TRY THIS AN- OOPS-!!!



WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO COFFEE?!!



AIN'T THAT CUTE.



THERE'S ONE MORE THING

THIS COULD BE A PRETTY IMPORTANT DISCOVERY FOR US...



I THINK IN THIS WORLD



YOU CAN PEAK INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS.



?!!!!

ARE YOU SERIOUS?!



WHY DO YOU THINK THAT?



THERE WERE MOMENTS...

LIKE BEING OVERWHELMED BY ANTHEA'S PERVERSENESS AND FAINTING



AND FEELING SOMETHING CONNECT, WITH A GUY WHO'S SOMEWHAT SIMILAR TO ME.



EVEN THE CONJECT SEEMED TO BE EFFECTED BY MY INNER VIOLENCE



SO HERE'S MY THEORY. I THINK BECAUSE WE ARE ALL DREAMING THE SAME DREAM



OUR CONSCIOUSNESS, THOUGH WEAKLY, ARE CONNECTED TO A CERTAIN LEVEL

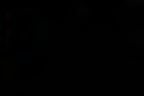
SO OTHER'S EMOTIONAL  
SHIFTS, ENERGY, AND  
THOUGHTS

BECOME EASIER TO READ.  
ANYWAY, THAT'S WHAT I  
THINK



RIPN'T YOU GUYS FEEL  
ANY OF THAT?

LIKE YOU KNEW WHAT THE  
OTHER WAS THINKING?



NOPE.



REALLY?

E...IF THAT WAS TRUE  
THEN WHY WOULD THE  
TALISMANS HOLD THE EXAMS  
IN A DREAM?

WHAT IF PEOPLE LOOK INTO  
THEIR MINDS?



WHAT IF THAT WAS THEIR  
OBJECTIVE ALL ALONG?

IF WE CAN READ EACH OTHER'S  
THOUGHTS,



IT MEANS THE TALISMAN CAN  
READ OUR MINDS ALSO

THE DRIVER OF BUS 666  
SAID THIS.

"WITH POWER COMES  
RESPONSIBILITY."



IF YOU WERE TO HOLD A TEST TO PICK OUT PEOPLE  
TO SHARE THIS "SPECIAL POWER" WITH, THEN WHICH  
QUALITIES WOULD YOU LOOK FOR?

THEIR STRENGTH? OR THE ABILITY TO USE  
THE "POWER" WELL?

S...SO YOU MEAN?



THIS TEST ITSELF  
COULD BE A FAKE...

IT WOULD SEEM LIKE THEY'RE  
PUSHING THE CONTESTANTS TO  
PICK OUT THE STRONGEST OF  
THE BUNCH, BUT

THROUGH THAT THEY'RE  
ACTUALLY TRYING TO FEEL  
THROUGH THEIR LAYERS.



...DRAH!

THEY  
WANT TO  
FIND OUT,  
WHO YOU ARE,  
WHAT ARE  
YOUR  
PASTS,



AND SO IF A  
PERSON IS  
FOUND TO BE  
UNQUALIFIED,  
THEY FAIL ON THE  
SPOT...!

'AN AUDITION'





00000000

USING THIS DREAM TRICK THEY'RE TRYING TO  
PICK PEER INTO OUR SUB-CONSCIOUS.

GOTTA HAND IT TO  
THE TALISMANS.



SO DON'T GET TOO INVOLVED IN  
THE EXAMS TO COME



ELSE YOU'LL FALL INTO  
THE JUDGES' TRAPS AND  
REVEAL EVERYTHING  
ABOUT YOURSELF.

YOU ESPECIALLY.



Soft

COUGH!!!

EVERYONE HERE HAS THEIR OWN REASONS TO BECOME A TALISMAN.



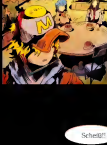
SO...WHAT DECIDES WHO BECOMES A TALISMAN OR NOT...IS IT

THE MOST RIGHTEOUS CAUSE...



AND THE CLEANEST PAST...?

I'M GONNA HAVE A LOOK AROUND TO  
CHECK ON THE OTHER CONTESTANTS AND  
MAYBE PICK UP SOME CUTE CHICKS.



Scheiß!!!



...I'D LIKE TO  
APOLOGIZE FOR  
WHAT MAXIM SAID  
BEFORE...



HE ONLY BECAME SO EMOTIONAL...

BECAUSE WE'VE MADE A  
PROMISE TO EACH OTHER.



AND FOR THE  
PROMISE...

HE AND I HAVE  
GONE TOGETHER SINCE  
CHILDHOOD.



HE IS A COMRADE WHO I CAN RELY  
ON WITH MY LIFE.



AND AT THE SAME TIME HE IS MY  
MOST PRECIOUS FRIEND

!





EVERYBODY HAVE THEIR REASONS



BUT YOU SAY IT IF THAT MAKES IT A RIGHT



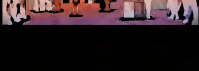
IT'S NOTHING BUT AN

EXCUSE

WINGCHELL?



I'LL BE GOING NOW



AHH...



MAYBE THAT WAS A BIT MUCH...

I THOUGHT I COULD LET HIM GO.



WE WERE ALSO

TOGETHER SINCE

CHILDHOOD.



AND DINKLE LOOKED AFTER US SO MUCH THAT HE

BEGAN DISREGARDING HIMSELF.

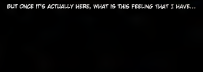


I'M ALWAYS SORRY ABOUT HIS, AND I WANTED AN

OPPORTUNITY TO COME BY...

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HIM TO LEAVE MY NEST, TO FIND SOMEONE

WHO CAN PULL HIM OUT LIKE DELTEMER...



BUT ONCE IT'S ACTUALLY HERE, WHAT IS THIS FEELING THAT I HAVE...

STILL SO YOUNG....



WINGCHELL CHRISTINA...



IT'S TIME.



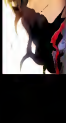
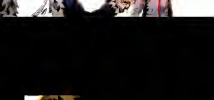
LET'S GET GOING TOO

DO YOUR BEST AND BEAT THE  
R&P EXAM TOO!



EVKLEBLATTE!

WE'LL BECOME TALISMANS TOGETHER!



YOU GOT IT?



Pound!

DELTEHIR!

...THANKS



THANKS.

YOU'RE GOING TO CALL ME BY MY NAME AFTER ALL?



HEY, MR. JAPANESE, ASKED FOR  
GOOD AT ANYTHING OTHER FIGHTING  
LESSON ON PEOPLE?

THANKS FOR HELPING OUT,  
MISTER NATIVE



YOU DID GREAT!  
MORIGATA!

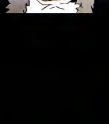
YOU WERE HAD FOR  
ANTHONY?



WE TO YOU, I FARE TOO!



...YUP!!



...THOUGHT HE'D TRY TO TEAR MY HAND OFF.





UNPREDICTABLE GUY  
ISN'T HE.....



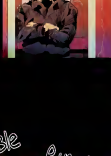
KO KO



Done



Slide



Rumble

Rumble

MINEVA-NIM  
YOU'RE HERE!



MINEVA-NIM!

Rumble

SO, WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED?



MYO MYO MYO- MEY  
THERE MINEVA, NICE TO  
SEE YOU'VE JOINED US!



IS THIS THE ARC YOU  
MENTIONED BEFORE?

PRECISELY! THIS ERA'S FINEST PIECE OF  
MACHINERY BROUGHT TO YOU BY MICHAELLA,  
MYSELF, AND MANY MORE TALUSTERS!!



THE ARC OF  
ORDEALS!!!

Du



Dun

HOW APPROPRIATE,  
CONSIDERING ITS STATE



I WAS GOING TO TOSS EACH CONTESTANT IN  
THERE AND SEE HOW LONG THEY COULD HOLD UP  
AGAINST OUR ATTACKS!

SOUNDS  
LIKE A GOOD IDEA?  
CAN YOU FIX IT?



Poht!

AND THAT'S WHERE WE  
HAVE A PROBLEM!!!

POZERS OF TALISTERS HAVE BEEN WORKING TO FIX THAT THING FOR HOURS TO NO AVAIL. IT'S STRANGE BECAUSE THAT CUBE WAS MADE SO IT CAN BE EASILY DESTROYED AS WELL AS FIXED.



WHAT MAKES MATTERS WORSE IS THAT WE HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE UNIDENTIFIED PHANTOM DID TO DESTROY IT SO COMPLETELY.

ISNT THIS A DREAM WORLD? CANT YOU JUST SNAP YOUR FINGER AND HAVE IT BACK TO NORMAL?



OF COURSE NOT!!!

EVEN IF IT'S OF MY MAKING, IF IT VIOLATES THE PHYSICS OF THIS WORLD THEN THE THE WORLD WILL COLLAPSE!

THE ONLY WAY TO DO ANYTHING WOULD BE RESETING THE WHOLE THING!!!



...SO TELL ME...

WHAT EXACTLY ARE THOSE PHANTOMS YOU MENTIONED?



THEY SEEM TO BE PROJECTIONS OF SOME CONTESTANTS

BUT THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A CASE WHERE THE PROJECTIONS CAN CAUSE PHYSICAL DAMAGE SUCH AS THIS.

THE MOST THEY COULD DO WAS MAKE MIND SHIFTS IN THE DREAMWORLD.



THIS DOESN'T SMELL GOOD ...



WHAT DID THE HITINGPOES SAY?

THEY SAW TWO PROJECTIONS. THEY LOOKED LIKE GHOSTS IN MONOTONE.



BOTH LITTLE CHILDREN, AND UNDER SOME ABILITY THAT THEY HAVE NEVER SEEN BEFORE.



CHURCHEN?!

WHATEVER THEY MAY BE, THE LONGER WE WAIT, THE MORE THEY WILL SYNC WITH THE DREAM AND BECOME STRONGER.



WE NEED TO MOVE FAST OR THEY MIGHT START ATTACKING THE CONTESTANTS.

AS SOON AS WE FIND WHO THOSE PROJECTIONS BELONG TO.



WE HAVE TO DISQUALIFY THEM IMMEDIATELY...!!

DO YOU HAVE A PICTURE OF THEM?



HYUP! GOODNESS I FORGOT!

DO YOU RECOGNIZE THEM?



.....



NOT AT ALL....



I WONDER....



...WHEN DID THIS TALISMAN EXAM



...BECOME SOMETHING MUCH LARGER THAN JUST AN EXAM TO ME.....



To be continued...

# Badwood Incompany

## ~Insomnia Weekly~ #4

### The church of the unknown, Pinksmisss....!

Hello all! It's reporter K here back with a new issue of Insomnia Weekly! The reason for my absence these past few weeks was that I was on very special and dangerous investigation. Do you all know of the religion surrounded in mysteries, the church of "Pinksmisss"?



There are numerous rumors floating around about this church that they are 'a con-religion', 'only a rumor', or that they are 'a cult that worships the devil' etc. etc. Actually, the Pinksmisss are not a terribly horrifying group. Though your life could be at risk if you delve too deep into their business. Go to a secluded mountain side, or any empty street corner and you'll be able to find the 'Glaring Eye' of the Pinksmisss.

The local Pinksmisss were actually very kind. Inside their church was very dark with a heavy air, but the members of the church were gentle and explained their beliefs very patiently.

"The Church of Pinksmisss is different from other churches where they teach you to hate and deny sin and evil completely. Here, we face our sins head on and learn how to overcome them. (A Pinksmisssan age 31)

The church teaches its believers how to refine the many pleasures and temptations in a peaceful way, but their methods were too foreign and uncomfortable for commoners to understand and so created many misunderstandings of the religion.

"The Pinksmisss has a total of 10 different branches of study, and each study a specific sin." Despite the potential danger, I went ahead and asked more about the subject.

When I asked, "Would it be possible for me to learn the 'special abilities'?" the Pinksmisssan quietly rolled up his sleeves to reveal numerous marks of self-mutilation and said to me,

"I will not stop you if you want to learn, but will you be able to handle it?"



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